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FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REALISM

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From Week to Week

The Jews are popularly supposed to be a very clever race, and in a narrow sense, this is probably true. To say that they are a wise race, however, would be to ignore many of their more salient characteristics, some of which are common to many Orientals. For instance, Professor Laski is accepted as one of their star turns, and whether by his personal qualities (which do not include charm), or by those powerful influences to which reference was made by D'Israeli, has arrived, as he himself indicates, at an eminence which enables him to instruct the second largest political party in this country on its behaviour in matters of foreign policy.

It is, however, the amiable convention that foreign affairs are dealt with by Ministers or their appointees, who can be called to book by Parliament, so that Professor Laski made an initial mistake in intervening publicly between Mr. Churchill and Mr. Attlee. That was not wise, nor was it, we should imagine, greatly appreciated by the Labour Party. But when the Conservatives quite legitimately made political capital out of it, the essential Jew spilt still more beans by informing an audience at Colliers Wood on June 22 that, as a result of his activity, Mr. Churchill was joined by the Labour Party in 1940, thus enabling the war to be carried on.

We feel that if Professor Laski can only be persuaded to make a series of speeches elaborating the major part he has played in history from behind the scenes, we are fairly safe from a Socialist Government for some years.

Lest we forget:

Date, Midsummer 1938. Scene, the garden of a country house in which a tea-party "to meet refugees from Hitler's tyranny" is in progress.

Native (to refugee): "What is your opinion of the state of affairs on the continent?"

Refugee: "We have great hopes."

Native: "Yes, of what?"

Refugee: "That there will be a war, of course."

Native: "Why should there be a war?"

Refugee: "How else can we get our property back."

So now they've had their war, Clarence, a six year's war at £12,000,000 a day and a million casualties, and they've got their property back, most of yours, and, if Professor Laski has his way, the rest of yours. Do you feel you've had your money's worth?

The organised blackmail of Great Britain and the British Empire is nowhere more strikingly evident than in

the agitation carried on in the United States by agents of the Indian National Congress, working in conjunction with "American" organisations such as the India League of America, The National Committee for India's Freedom, and other such bodies catering to the inexhaustible determination of the United States public to mind other people's business. One aspect of this is, of course, just business; the millionaire Hindu exploiters of labour find their style cramped by the British Raj on the one hand, and the big American manufacturer doesn't find the Indian Government as lavish in concessions as he thinks he deserves.

But there is more to it than that, and we notice that a large advertisement in the San Francisco *Chronicle* announces a Meeting "For a Free India" with prominent Indian agitators and a San Francisco Pastor as speakers, to be held in the *Scottish Rite Auditorium*. The Scottish Rite, which has about as much to do with Scotland as have many of the bearers of Scottish names living in St. Johns Wood, is a special form of Freemasonry commonly understood to have close relationships with the Grand Orient Lodges of France and Russia. It is of course quite possible but not very probable, that the owners of this building will let it to anybody for any purpose. But the policy of the meeting and its objective of utilising the U.N.C.I.O. for purposes which do not appear to be exactly relevant to the agenda of Great Britain, is just what we should expect if the meeting-place had been carefully chosen.

While probably most of the electorate, whatever its party allegiance may be, is blissfully unaware of it, there are only two parties in this election—the Nationalist and the Internationalist, and the Nationalist has a powerful Fifth Column entrenched inside it. The policy of the Internationalist Party is exactly that of Totalitarianism played an octave higher up—nations are nothing: the World State is everything. The policy of the Nationalists is "mind your own business—if you can." The Fifth Column is saying fairly openly, "we'll see that you don't." So to begin with, they're feeding the Hottentots first.

Mr. Attlee was a lecturer at the London School of Economics.

Although no further evidence is requisite, the world dominion plot obligingly provides specimen cases, in every Anglo-Saxon country at least, of the technique to be employed in achieving its end.

It would now appear that Professor Laski's assumption of control over Mr. Attlee is one of these cases; and the principle involved is again asserted in Canada by the C.C.F. (Socialist) Party in the case of Mr. Herbert Herridge, a Member of the Legislative Council of British Columbia

(not to be confused with the Mr. Herridge for a short period connected with Social Credit politics).

Mr. Herridge, elected on a C.C.F. ticket, decided, on advice by his constituents, to stand for the Federal Parliament. To his surprise, and that of his constituents, he was informed by the C.C.F. that his candidature would not be permitted—he must stay where he was. Mr. Herridge rebelled, and was promptly expelled from the party. But the Socialist Executive did not stop at that. They announced publicly that any Socialist who supported Mr. Herridge would also be expelled. The meaning of this is unmistakable. Members of Legislatures, whether Provincial or Federal, who are elected on a Socialist "ticket" are representatives, not of their constituents, but of the unelected, and undismissable, Socialist Executive and whoever controls it. D'markrazi, in fact.

The American military authorities have issued a sharp denial to the story given publicly by Mr. J. B. Priestley, that, in the interests of the profit system, hospital bedding and equipment had been burnt, and crockery pulverised by driving tractors over it.

We have been disappointed with Mr. Priestley. There was a time when it appeared that the monopoly of credit might be faced with a novelist who would dramatise the subject for the novel-reading public; and a novel of the merit of *The Good Companions*, with the drive which Harriet Beecher Stowe put into the absurd but melodramatic *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, would be no mean weapon. After one or two not very inspiring brushes with the subject, however, Mr. Priestley mounted his horse and rode off furiously in all directions, and appears to have arrived everywhere at once.

Colonel Llewellyn informs an irritated public that the large amount of food which Denmark is supplying to us will not improve our food situation—it merely replaces that which we are pouring into the Continent—Germany, probably. What is the game? Our overseas exchange system is said to be strained to breaking point. Why are we piling up an adverse balance, e.g., in Denmark? We hesitate to believe that Lord Keynes, or whoever provides our economic wisdom is mad enough to wish us to work for nothing for Denmark "to provide full employment." If that is the bright idea, someone deserves to be shot for it, and sooner or later, somebody will be.

We are informed on direct authority that eggs in British-occupied Germany are 4d each, butter is plentiful and cheap, the shops are stocked with luxuries, and wine, beer and liqueurs are available to practically anyone who can pay their (by British standards) extremely moderate price.

Marshal Stalin, having decided that he is a person of outstanding merit, has conferred upon himself the new (in Russia) title of Generallissimo, which has a fine Fascist ring. But the idea has charm and logic, and Pooh-Bah was not much before his time when he commented on the declaration, "Such is the Law"—"It is. I made it so." After all, to whom is the Supreme Potentate in the Supreme State to look for a little recognition of his own merits, if not to himself?

The beauty of the principle is its wide adaptability, as Mr. Will Lawther and his coal miners evidently perceive.

There are less than 800,000 miners of all descriptions (not all coal miners) in these islands, whose population of somewhat less than fifty millions is more or less dependent (at present, but not probably for long) upon coal. Having decided that the "coal belonged to the people" and having agitated continuously for its removal from the control of any concrete persons, "the miners," i.e., those who manipulate them, now propose to award it, together with the collieries, to themselves, under the name of nationalising it. The first step has resulted in less coal of worse quality at four times the price to "the people." The second step shows every evidence of being designed to wreck the country. But once you're the crew and the captain bold, and the mate of the Nancy brig, you can hop about from being the bo'sun tight and the midshipmite, to being the crew of the captain's gig, just as suits you.

"Curious Speeches"

Under this heading, the *Review of World Affairs* for June 27 says:—

"Many strange things are happening. Nothing is more so—and is less publicised—than the remarkable fact that in several parts of Europe there is a big call up of men and far-reaching plans for military training. It is astonishing, after the European cease-fire, to hear of such large calling-up measures. One might have thought that at last we should be hearing of demobilisation—of peace. Announcing the call up in Czecho-Slovakia, the Chief of Staff said on May 20:—"The organisation, armament and training of the new army will be identical with that of the Red Army. . . Only thus will it be possible for the new Czecho-Slovak Army to make full use of the Red Army's fighting experience, and be formed without loss of precious time. Our time is short. The future must not find us unprepared. Our Army is destined for fighting."

The *Review* adds that only a few weeks ago the little Albanian Army was making similar propaganda over the radio quite openly. . . "Details of the big call up all over a vast area of Europe can be listened to on the radio. It is not a rumour. We should insist upon an explanation of these and many other facts while Britain [*sic*] and America have powerful forces in Europe which are still stronger than the forces of any other Power, or group of Powers. If we let things drift for two or three years, it may be too late to avert great dangers."

Concerning events in France, the *Review* states that there is imminent danger of a decline into revolution, with the emergence of a France hostile to Great Britain and America. "For some reason the facts are not being published anywhere."

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German Nationals in Great Britain

The following is the text, from the Official Report, with the sole omission of a brief courtesy reference, of the speech by Lord Ailwyn in the House of Lords on May 2 last:—

Lord Ailwyn rose to call attention to certain matters connected with German nationals now resident in this country; and to move for Papers. The noble Lord said: My Lords, in rising to move the Motion standing in my name on the Order Paper, I shall be as brief as possible, but I have a certain amount of ground to cover. The Motion has been drafted in wide terms in the hope that various aspects of this question of Germans in our midst and their infiltration into various activities of our national life may be raised and discussed. Let me say at the outset that I speak on this subject as a member of no association, movement, group, fellowship or what not. I am antipathetic to no sect or religion, and I am dull enough to have no prejudices or intolerances whatever, so far as I know. What I have got is a profound distrust of Germany and the German race. Let no one, therefore, seek to clothe me with the mantle of Anti-Semitism or anything of that sort. It would fit me in no way at all, and would be just about as incongruous as, one might say, a cope and mitre might be adorning a Hottentot. I speak as a plain normal Englishman, concerned for the safety and welfare of this country and of the British Empire. I feel that I should apologise to your Lordships for this preliminary canter, almost amounting to a personal statement, and rather a dreary one at that, but from more than one source have I received a friendly warning that should I raise the subject that I am about to raise in your Lordships' House I should be regarded with dark suspicion as having some sinister object in view. That is, to me, a quite incomprehensible point of view but there it is, and I, therefore, seek by this disclaimer, to spike, at an early stage, the guns of any possible detractor. . .

There are certain questions, of which I have given notice, that I desire to ask His Majesty's Government. In the course of certain observations which I ventured to make on February 27 last, I drew your Lordships' attention to the fact that of the 40,000 Germans resident in this country to-day, a number were serving in our Government Departments—sixty-six was the number I quoted, that being the number that was given at the end of January, in reply to a question in another place. There were, we were told, sixty-six unnaturalised Germans so employed. I quoted the particular numbers employed at the Service Ministries only. They were seventeen at the Admiralty, four at the War Office, and two at the Air Ministry. The reply given in the House of Commons went on to say that in some of these cases the employment had been terminated. I should like to ask His Majesty's Government how many of these Germans are, in fact, so employed to-day? I should further like to know, in respect of whatever the number turns out to be, the reason why it has been found necessary or desirable to employ enemy aliens in Government Departments, and whether there are no suitable, qualified British subjects available for the posts concerned. On the former occasion I expressed my concern at this situation. I will not trespass on your Lordships' time by repeating what I then said, but I shall await the Government reply with some anxiety.

One of the results of the debate in your Lordships' House, on February 27,—it arose on a motion by my noble friend Lord Vansittart with reference to enemy propaganda

and agents—so far as I was concerned, was an unusually heavy post bag. The majority of the letters which I received were from men and women quite unknown to me, and they provided an interesting cross-section of public opinion. If I had any doubts previously about the feeling in the country concerning these Germans in our midst, those doubts were finally resolved by the expressions, firstly, of gratification at the matter being thus ventilated in Parliament, and, secondly, of concern and, indeed, of disgust, at the situation existing.

The contents of one of these letters forms the basis of a further series of questions which I desire to ask His Majesty's Government, and I must ask your Lordships' forbearance while I read it. My correspondent writes:

"I have read the report of your speech yesterday in the House of Lords. For many years I served at the Foreign Office as wireless engineer, and I was transferred to the B.B.C. in 1943 to take charge of that section of the monitoring service responsible for the interception of telegraphed news services from Germany. On my appointment I was astonished and dismayed to find that the policy of the B.B.C. was to have Germans in charge of this most important service. For a year I protested with all the energy I possessed against a policy which I considered ill-chosen and dangerous. In a minute to the director of the monitoring service I drew attention to the unseemly behaviour of these Germans on each occasion of a speech by their Führer and exception was taken to my attitude towards these 'loyal and courageous people,' but I continued to protest against the continuance in positions of supervision of persons of German nationality.

"I believe it is not realised that the reports received by His Majesty's Government of enemy wireless propaganda are intercepted, selected, translated and edited by Germans under German supervision. I left the B.B.C. at the end of a year, as I found it impossible to continue any longer in office continually and vehemently in opposition to the policy of my superiors. The work upon which I was engaged was given over largely to a German subject, whose grasp of the English language is superficial and who had actually served two terms of imprisonment in internment camps for enemy aliens in Britain."

So serious a view did I take of this matter that I asked the writer to come to London to see me. He told me that these Germans greatly resented his arrival to take charge of them. He found them undisciplined, inefficient and truculent. He repeatedly found it necessary to reject their work and to call for a re-translation, much to their wrath. He described to me how all these Germans crowded into the listening room whenever a speech by Hitler was scheduled to take place. They all poured in, even those off duty, to the considerable inconvenience and annoyance of those engaged in this highly important work, sitting on tables and even on the floor, determined not to miss a word or an inflection of the voice of their Führer. So much for (to quote the Government reply of February 27) "the poor miserable people who have fled from the barbarities of German oppression and German terror." Those words were used to describe the Germans now resident in this country.

Repeated protests by this correspondent of mine to the director of the monitoring service were merely met by a curt rejoinder that nothing could be done in the matter, and that he must try to get on better with these Germans. At the end of a year, as he says in his letter, he resigned his post rather than continue in such circumstances. I feel that your Lordships' at least will join with me in applauding such a conscientious and patriotic action. It requires courage to throw away a well-paid job and forfeit a pension. I am told that the B.B.C. look after their employees remarkably well in this way always provided that they toe the line and do exactly what they are told, and provided that they sink

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From Now On

(1) There has lately been some increase in the number of letters which reach the Social Credit Secretariat from officers and men who are serving or who have served abroad. The total is not large; but it may be significant that those letters which come from correspondents who have not previously, to our knowledge, expressed interest in Social Credit exceed in number the letters from civilian enquirers. The correspondents in the larger of these groups are alike in two respects: (a) they are convinced that their views are right (as, in the main, in our opinion, they are generally), but regard them as exceptional; and (b) the letters themselves are distinctly better, as a group, than the civilians' letters. The service writers know more at first hand not only of, e.g., conditions in the 'qualified' countries—'occupied,' 'liberated,' etc.,—but of the political undercurrents which have attended the war. A certain gravity of outlook, not to say pessimism, is displayed, which we interpret as having some relation to a lower standard of information concerning the strategy and tactics appropriate to meet the situations described than is to be found among our civilian correspondents. This should be amenable to adjustment.

(2) A report received bearing upon one part of the campaign just concluded (excepting a few special areas) states that the available Social Credit personnel divides naturally into two groups: one composed of "individuals who will act on general published advices—and the others." The writer says the first group is not large "and sometimes they misread strategy." In the nature of things a strategy developed in full view of the enemy must be either unanswerable as well as concrete or correctly as well as concretely applied to achieve success, and there is no wide choice of unanswerable strategies. Divergence is inevitably cumulative, and tall oaks of difference from little acorns grow. We are very well aware that a very high level of efficiency is attainable, if at all, only on paper: the wheel will turn if *enough* water falls onto it.

(3) The number of leaflets which Social Crediters were able to obtain during the campaign, and to distribute, considerably exceeded earlier expectation. Their effect was reflected (to the initiated) in some leading articles, manoeuvres and public speeches and advices. The most important results from the work done are unlikely to be immediately apparent; but it is highly desirable that some points should be attended to immediately. First among these is the retention of contact with electors who have been interested by the work done. Every effort should be made to improve the understanding of the prevailing situation elicited,

and to show, whatever the nominal result of the mock 'decision' registered, that a real decision is possible and must be secured—and will be secured by one side or the other. We shall not have long to wait. Small but highly trained working parties should be organised, and some suitable persons should take responsibility for correctly communicating Secretariat advice to these: the captain of a (voluntary) cricket team is not an unsuitable 'model' for such individuals.

(4) It is particularly desired that men in the services who anticipate early demobilisation and are willing to play an active part in Social Credit should establish contact with the Secretariat. An increasing proportion of the circulation of this journal is not on a subscription basis.

Civil Service Candidates

(From The Times of June 2.)

Sir,—Little interest or public comment has been aroused over the alteration in the nationality rule for the admission of candidates to his Majesty's Civil Service. This seeming apathy is doubtless due to the unobtrusive manner in which this change has been introduced.

The revision of the nationality rule is contained in a Civil Service Commission regulation dated November 21, 1944, whereby permanent appointment to the British Civil Service is now open to "a naturalised British subject who has resided in his Majesty's Dominions and/or been employed elsewhere in the service of the Crown for at least five years out of the last eight years preceding the date of his appointment." There is one proviso: that the appointment of a naturalised British subject to the Foreign Office and to the three Service Ministries shall be subject to the consent of the political heads of those Departments.

The implications of this new regulation deserve attention. The majority of the 40,000 German nationals, *inter alia*, now living in this country, have fulfilled the residential qualification, and have now only to apply for, and be granted, naturalisation to become eligible for permanent appointments in his Majesty's Civil Service. In the eight years covering the period January 1, 1933, to December 31, 1940, some 1,630 Germans were admitted to British nationality. Since 1940 a further 60 Germans have been granted the same privilege. How many more may be applying for, and awaiting admission to, British nationality is not known. But it is clearly desirable that the British public should be informed of this latest innovation and be made aware of a measure which has been introduced with such a singular lack of publicity.

The average Englishman is unlikely to feel anything but concern at the permanent infiltration of foreign influence into British administration in peace-time. The filling of key-posts in our public service by aliens, who have long enjoyed protection and immunity in this country, appears to be a peculiarly ill-timed and inappropriate project, when it is reflected that hundreds of thousands of our own fighting men are shortly to be demobilised and will be seeking full-time permanent employment. In what way can this measure be said to be in the national interest? Yours, &c.,

House of Lords.

AILWYN.

(Lord Ailwyn's speech on German Nationals in Great Britain appears elsewhere in this and next week's issues of *The Social Crediter*.)

The Economist and Price Control

It was a prophetic utterance by Major Douglas in 1940 when he said "events would force the issue" and social crediters can now congratulate themselves that, in price control, events have forced the first demonstration, in part, of the social credit monetary technique. We can look forward with optimism to further coming events which will force further demonstrations, not only in the sphere of economic democracy but also in the sphere of political democracy.

That our war time statesmen are still being led up the garden path by their experts is evidenced by the statements made lately by Mr. Ernest Bevin, Mr. Tom Johnston and Mr. Oliver Lyttelton. Mr. Bevin still plugs the inflation bogey as an excuse for retaining the multiplicity of controls in the post war world. "There would be wholesale chaos," says Mr. Bevin, "if controls were suddenly taken off. There would be inflation," using the only control instrument (price fixing) which increases the liberties of the people as an excuse to retain all the others.

The Economist of April 21 published an article on "Subsidy Policy" which transgresses every canon of honest treatment of this matter. The accepted interpretation of a subsidy is money spent by the Government to assist industry in keeping down costs of production, by this means preventing a rise in prices.

The Economist is attempting to make use of the fear in the public mind (as a result of financial propaganda) that one section of the community is to be taxed in order to assist another section. As war finance has proved, money for the express purpose of selling consumer goods below cost is not now recovered in taxation. As the Chancellor of the Exchequer has informed us (April 1945)—"The total expenditure on all services, war and civil, during the five and a half years of war, was £27,400,000,000. Of this £13,300,000,000 or less than half was met out of current revenue." Where then, has the other half come from? The other half represents creation of financial credits, which *The Economist* terms 'borrowed money,' which did not exist before it was created. There are no balanced budgets in war time and it is impossible to recover all expenditure.

The Economist is not afraid that the public will understand the whole technique of "subsidy policy," but it knows and is afraid that the public, once having tasted the results, will be inclined to demand more of them. The following paragraphs are revealing in this respect:—

"The trade unions cannot be expected to exercise due responsibility if the idea gets about that higher wages will be paid out of the bottomless [*sic*] public purse." It goes on to say, "the effect of allowing any such notion to become prevalent can be very clearly seen in agriculture and it is essential that the *normal sequence of economic cause and effect* [my emphasis] should be restored in that industry." Of course they do not say what is the 'normal sequence of economic cause and effect.' It was the 'normal sequence of economic cause and effect' which operated to withhold the necessary credits from this country for rearmament purposes, while at the same time, lending to Germany millions for the same purpose. It was the 'normal

sequence of economic cause and effect' which deliberately plunged Germany in particular, and other countries, into a turmoil of inflation after the last war and this country into a period of deflation in which unemployment rose to the figure of three millions and business bankruptcies increased enormously. The list could be extended.

Further remarks indicate that *The Economist* would dearly like to wash out these hated 'subsidies.' It is the only control mechanism erected during and for purposes of war which our hidden controllers do not wish to retain and extend. As the article says,—"To argue that the subsidies should be retained during the transitional period *is to bow to expediency*" [my emphasis]. But although we 'have to bow to expediency' *The Economist* is determined to fix a limit. "The path of wisdom may be to fix an upper limit to the total costs of the subsidies."

The same people who, before the war, treated the costing system with the reverence accorded to laws of nature, now make this statement:—"The cost of the subsidies cannot be ignored, but an addition of £250 million to the deficit is likely in this period, to be much less harmful than the addition of the same figure to consumers' costs."

The article gives four purposes for the 'subsidy policy.' The main one, inflation, has already been dealt with. "The second object is to pay the British farmer higher prices than the British consumer is deemed to be able to afford." 'Deemed' is rather a good one, but the question of vital importance is, who deems?

"The third purpose of subsidies is to stimulate some form of consumption... Such a policy has many attractions. It could be argued that even the present inflated total of subsidies costs only about one fifth of the yield of indirect taxation. Why should not these taxes, when the time for post war reduction comes, be kept at a level slightly higher than would otherwise be determined, in order to pay for a nutrition policy." As Sir William Beveridge says:—"I know best what is good for you."

"The last purpose of the subsidies is, pragmatically, the most important—to obviate a sudden and damaging rise in the wage rates." Almost exclusively, everywhere in the world, the trade unions have concentrated on wage rates, neglecting prices and being content to chase prices which are always rising, and which will continue to rise unless the 'subsidy policy' is applied to all ultimate commodities—a useful pointer to trades unionists if they could by-pass their leaders to look at it.—W. A. B.

"The Masses"

"The concept of 'the masses' is not an economic concept. People of all levels of income may belong spiritually to the masses, particularly intellectuals and the young. But there is a connection with the ownership of property. The masses are the product of urban industrialism, and the best remedy is to get rid of proletariats by diffusing ownership. The worst is to accept the masses as the only significant part of society and in their name destroy the social inheritance which alone enables men to live together, looking ahead in their individual plans as families must be able to do."

— "The Domestic Issue" in *The Tablet*, June 30.

GERMANS IN ENGLAND (Continued from page 3)
all personality and initiative and are content to be nothing more or less than "Yes men." This somewhat harsh criticism is not based on the testimony of a single individual. Only the other day I talked to a man who had for over five years been in charge of a very important section of the B.B.C. He has lately preferred to resign rather than continue under this autocracy which I have described. Other quite outstanding men have gone during the war years for the same reason. It does seem a pity that a Corporation which I should be the first to admit has done, and is doing, such a first-class job of work should be ready to dispense with the services of men of proved worth and ability, and often with unique knowledge and experience, rather than accept a new outlook and a progressive point of view. I trust that your Lordships will pardon this slight digression.

I do not know what your Lordships may think about this monitoring service situation. To me it appears folly to employ enemy aliens on work of this kind. It is not difficult to visualise the harm that may be done by a slight twisting of the text of a translation, the substitution of a word here and a wrong emphasis there. I do not say for one moment that this is done. The great majority of these Germans are, no doubt, fully alive to the advantages accruing to them in their present safe and protected positions and would be unlikely to do anything which would mean running the risk of losing their job; but the danger is surely obvious, and I wish to ask His Majesty's Government whether they are aware of these things, and, if so, what the reasons are for this policy. Are there no suitably qualified British subjects available for this work? I understand that in the reception units of the monitoring service alone there are over fifty Germans employed. I should be glad to have this figure confirmed, and at the same time I shall be grateful for information as to the total number of unnaturalised Germans employed by the B.B.C.

Your Lordships will probably be astonished to learn, in view of all this, and will be able to imagine my own astonishment on discovering it, that in the charter of the B.B.C. (Cmd. 5329) it is clearly stated in paragraph 7 (3):

"Except with the approval in writing of the Postmaster-General."—
presumably that should read, in war-time, "Minister of Information"—

"every officer or servant of the Corporation employed in the conduct of the service shall be a British subject."

If this to my mind eminently wise and sensible precaution was deemed necessary in peace-time, one would have thought it would have been all the more essential in time of war; and if modifications had to be made then, at least one would think that nationals of our deadliest enemy would not be selected to take the place of British subjects. I am never very clear as to the extent or degree of control which the Government exercise over this Corporation. I have noticed frequent complaints in another place with reference to certain shortcomings or iniquities on the part of the B.B.C., and the almost invariable reply of the Minister of Information, so far as I can remember, is that he is unable or unwilling to interfere. I understand that in war-time he is the Minister who makes the necessary approach to the Treasury for obtaining the very considerable funds of which I understand that the B.B.C. dispose, so that presumably he acts *in loco parentis* generally. Perhaps my noble friend who is to reply will be able to enlighten me a little further on this point.

I am no fanatic or alarmist on this matter. I claim to have as much of the milk of human kindness as most people. In the late summer of 1938, when on a visit to Vienna, I sent for two Austrian Jews, whose cry for help in *The Times* had wrung my heart, and I shall never forget the look of furtive terror on their faces as they walked through the doors of my hotel. They became my servants for a few months in this country and very loyally they served me. Later, I had a German Jewess in my employ until shortly before the outbreak of war. These people's gratitude was touching in the extreme and they never failed to send me a Christmas card each year. This year I have even had an Easter card from them. I only hope that I should their eyes ever chance to fall on the remarks that I was impelled to make the other day and upon my further observations this afternoon, they will be large-hearted and broad-minded enough to understand.

It is not true that I regard the 40,000 Germans in this country as dangerous Nazis, as the noble Viscount, Lord Templewood, alleged in his criticism of my speech the other day. I am sorry he is not in his place to-day, I told him I was going to refer to this and I am sure he did not wish in any way to misrepresent me, but I expressly said on that occasion:

"Now I am not foolish enough to suppose that among these 40,000 Germans in Britain to-day there are not many perfectly harmless, genuinely unfortunate people, living quietly and inoffensively in the country which has given them refuge."

But is that any reason for complacency, for ignoring the potential danger of our harbouring enemy agents in our midst, for employing these Germans in Government Departments, in vitally important posts in the B.B.C. and cheerfully assenting to their general infiltration into all forms of our national activity?

The Minister replying for the Government the other day said this:

"As far as I am aware, no fifth columnists are wandering around this country, and indeed, if they are, they certainly have not shown their ugly heads."

If they are! With great respect I say, what complacency is this from a Government spokesman! Doubtless they have not shown their ugly heads, but surely it is the business of secret agents not to do so, and Germany does not tolerate stupidity in her employees. The noble Earl further assured your Lordships that "these poor people" are doing no harm in this country. That expression "poor people" is rather unpleasantly reminiscent of the "poor Germans" in the years between the wars. "What will you do if you lose the war?" a Swiss asked a German in 1918. "We will organise sympathy" was his reply. How successfully they did so is a matter of history. Are we going to make it easier for them this time by organising it for them ourselves?

How can the Government possibly substantiate a statement that these people are doing no harm in this country? I wonder if any of your Lordships chanced to read a Press report of March 15 last. I read from an article in the *Daily Mail*. It is headed "A German Sets Four Riddles—Led Double Life." It states:

"When Home Office experts consider whether or not the man that Scotland Yard knows as Ernest Meissner should be deported they will be faced with four mysteries concerning his movements in this country. (1) Where he came from in Germany; (2) Why he assumed the identity of another man; (3) Why he

posed as a British Air Force officer for several hours every night during his four months in England; (4) Where he obtained his uniforms. To people he is known to have met in London he was Horace Ernest Berry, a tall good-looking man of 26. . .

"In the name of Berry, Meissner was on Tuesday sent to gaol for six months on charges of contravening the Aliens Registration Order. At the same time he was recommended for deportation. . . He claimed to have fought with the Maquis. He was brought to England with other refugees. Berry passed the Home Office tests for aliens and was allowed to get a job. He registered as an alien of 'uncertain' nationality. His first job was as a night orderly at St. Thomas's Hospital which he got because of his medical training. He lived in lodgings in Paddington. A month after he arrived in England he appeared at Marylebone Police Court on charges of wearing an R.A.F. Squadron Leader's uniform with the D.S.O., D.F.C., and Africa Star. He was put on probation.

"Then he went to live in Wenlock Road, E. Mrs. Lionel Marks let one of her rooms to him. Mr. Marks gave him a job as a cigarette packer. When he came home from work he took off his civilian clothes and put on one of several R.A.F. uniforms he had in his room. Every night he went out in his uniform and returned at eleven o'clock. He told us he was going to the pictures," Mrs. Marks said. He stayed with Mrs. Marks for nine days. On February 26 the police called and took Ernest Meissner away. They took his uniforms too."

The magistrate said:

"The danger of an alien with a faked certificate going about in an R.A.F. uniform can have a most serious implication." An order for deportation was made.

If it is possible for a German agent, as it is quite clear that this man was, to enter this country after over five years of war and remain at large for four months the noble Earl will scarcely be surprised if some of us view with alarm and scepticism the assurance that "these poor people" are doing no harm in this country. Such serene complacency is, I submit, unjustifiable and unwise in the extreme. Let us save our sympathy for our own people, our men of the Navy and Merchant Marine waging their ceaseless war against mines and submarines and in countless cases left to perish on rafts or in the water from hunger or thirst or exposure; for our soldiers and our airmen, in their gallant fight with a ruthless merciless enemy, or languishing in prisoner-of-war camps suffering God knows what privations to-day as the ring closes tighter round our enemy. Let us have less of "these poor Germans" and more realisation of what one of my correspondents reminds me—"once a German always a German" and all that that implies in the loss of treasure and blood all through the years at the hands of that race.

Let me read your Lordships a few lines from what this correspondent wrote, a man old in wisdom and with many years of public service behind him. He said:

"For many years now in my small way I have been trying to get people in this country to realise the gravity of the German menace and that nothing is truer than 'once a German always a German' and that, however much a German may be up against the German Government of the moment, he has always in his heart and before his eyes the motto '*Deutschland über Alles*' and does and will work steadily to bring forward the day when that motto will be fulfilled."

A German writing of his own people says "the German is naturally a kind and gentle person but every German at the bottom of his heart has a lust for conquest which can be aroused by any leader and which, when once aroused, will take him to any extreme."

I have listened with the greatest interest and sympathy to the speeches made in your Lordships' House yesterday

on the Motion moved by my noble friend Lord Denham. I am one of those who believe that it is not merely Nazi horrors and beastliness that have to be destroyed; the menace to world peace lies in the diseased imagination, the twisted mentality, the over-weening ambition, the aggressive ideas of racial superiority, the inherent cruelty and the vindictive sadism which pervade Germany's rulers, whatever their persuasion, and are transmitted to, and reflected by, and acted upon by the German people. Another correspondent of mine writes:

"Those who have studied the irrefutable evidence of facts know that it is the perpetual soul of Germany we are fighting, and nothing else."

The noble Viscount, Lord Templewood, gave it as his opinion the other day that I generalise too much. I only wish I could feel that he was right. He told your Lordships of the immense pains he and his advisers at the Home Office took in the years immediately before the war in the matter of sifting and examining the many refugees from Germany before admitting them to this country. One may agree or disagree with such a policy. At least, if that took place in peace-time, uneasy though that peace was, appeasement was the order of the day. The noble Viscount, I am sure, would be the last to claim infallibility for his then Department; and knowing what we do of German cunning, what a heaven-sent opportunity that large influx of refugees afforded for importing numbers of secret agents and placing them just exactly where they were wanted.

Here I should like to ask the noble Earl if he can give me any information regarding a German subject, Dr. Schacht, employed for some years at the Ministry of Information. I am told he has now gone. I understand that before the war he was a University professor in Cairo and was in close touch with the German Minister there; that he was interned in this country for eight months and subsequently released as there was nothing against him; that in addition to his work at the Ministry of Information he was extensively employed by the B.B.C., that the salary he received was at the rate of £600 a year, and that during a certain period he attended policy meetings of the Ministry of Information. It was alleged in another place that this man had had access to the most secret papers. This was denied by the Minister of Information, and of course the denial was accepted. It was further alleged that he was in possession of passes which admitted him to any Government Department in Whitehall. This was denied on no less than three occasions by the Minister of Information, but on the fourth occasion it was admitted that passes had, quite wrongly and irregularly, been issued but had then been withdrawn.

I am not casting any aspersions on the Ministry of Information—far from it—but I draw attention to this as an illustration of the unwisdom of employing Germans in Government Departments, particularly when such employment is not accompanied by the requisite care and precaution. I shall be glad if the noble Earl will state the date of Dr. Schacht's commencing work at the Ministry of Information and, if it is true that he has now departed, did he resign or was he dismissed and, if the latter, what were the circumstances attending his dismissal, and what are his present whereabouts and employment?

(The conclusion of Lord Ailwyn's speech and passages from those which followed it will appear next week.)

The Age of Abundance

(From a Correspondent)

Reference has often been made, by Douglas particularly, to the recurrent nature of the crisis which now faces society, which we so greatly hope will at last meet with solution. I wonder if the readers of *The Social Crediter* would be interested in the following facts, which reflect, besides the 'Age of Abundance' theme, distinct traces of the 'suppression' theme? I will put the facts I have collected in chronological order. Virgil, it appears, wrote the *Eclogues* between B.C. 42 and B.C. 39. A translation of lines 4 to 7 of the Fourth *Eclogue* is: "The last age, heralded in Cumaean song, is come, and the great march of the centuries begins anew. Now the Virgin returns: now Saturn is king again, and a new and better race descends from on high." Saturn was the reputed introducer of civilisation and social order: Saturnia, the land of plenty.

In the closing years of the 15th Century, Botticelli retired from painting under the influence of a religio-political motive. "Returning to Florence, he reads Dante's vision of the hell created by its [the Law's] violation. . . . He knows that the pictures he has painted in Rome cannot be understood by the people; they are exclusively for the best trained scholars in the Church." So he "engraved her [Italy's] Pilgrim's Progress." (Ruskin). "You all here know what contention, first, and then corruption and dishonour, had paralysed these two powers [Church and State] before the days of which we now speak. Reproof, and either reform or rebellion, became necessary everywhere. The northern Reformers, Holbein and Luther, and Henry and Cromwell, set themselves to their task rudely, and it might seem carried it through. The southern Reformers, Dante, and Savonarola, and Botticelli, set hand to their task reverently, and, it seemed, did not by any means carry it through. But the end is not yet." This quotation too is from Ruskin, who characterises the division between northern and southern as the opposition of "the immodesty of narrow imagination trained in self-trust" to "the modesty of great imagination; that is to say, of the power which conceives all things in true relation, and not only as they affect ourselves." One of the subjects chosen by Botticelli for etching was the Cumaean Sibyl. In the engraving, she strains slightly forwards and looks into the distance, the Sibylline Leaves strewn about her, and her left hand supporting the (?) Sibylline Book, with a condensed version of the words of the *Eclogue* cited above. Below the engraving appears a verse in Italian:—

*L'ultimo mie parlar fia si verace
Pero che giunti son gli ultimi canti
Del venimento "dello re di pace"
Di chi ci salvera noi tutti quanti
Prendera carne umana si gli piace
E mostrerassi umile a tutti ch'avanti
A Madre prende l'umile verginella
[La qu]al sara sopra ogni donna bella.*

which I take to be a rendering of the Virgil with Saturn replaced by 'the King of Peace,' and the Sibyl by the Virgin of the New Testament.

Thus it seems that Botticelli linked the ancient legend and Christian belief. There is, of course, a vast literature on this topic. But there remains what Jérôme Carcopino

(1930) calls "Le mystère de la IV^e Eglogue," which may have a rightful place in our thoughts, if a less rightful share in our labours to elucidate. As Ruskin said, "The end is not yet."

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